5

10

15

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed is a method of connecting a telephone via an IP network. An exchange on the originating side (1) evaluates voice quality along a route through the IP network to an exchange on a terminating side when a call originate request has been issued to connect the originating telephone via the IP network, (2) connects the originating telephone to the terminating telephone via the above-mentioned route if the voice quality is good, and (3) if the voice quality is bad, controls connection of the telephone in accordance with a command from the caller or by selecting another route automatically such as an alternative route through the IP network.